09/187,284 (Lynn et al)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/187,284	11/05/98	LYNN	P PLAT1005MCF/

LM02/0121

MARTIN C FLIESLER
FLIESLER DUBB MEYER AND LOVEJOY
FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SUITE 400
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94111-4156

EXAMINER
GOOD JOHNSON,M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2779	6

DATE MAILED: 01/21/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _Nov 5, 1998_

☐ This action is **FINAL.**

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under _Ex parte Quayle_, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____3___ month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) _1-25_____ is/are pending in the applicat

    Of the above, claim(s) _none_____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) _1-25_____ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

    ☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

       ☐ received.

       ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____ .

       ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    *Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

Application/Control Number: 09/187,284 (Lynn et al.)   Page 2

Art Unit: 2772

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: application, filed on 11/05/1998.

2.   Claims 1-25 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 are independent claims. No

claims have been amended.

3.   The present title of the application is "Method and Apparatus for Interfacing with

Intelligent Three-Dimensional Components" (as originally filed).

Application/Control Number: 09/187,284 (Lynn et al.)   Page 3

Art Unit: 2772

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5.   Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Carey et al., U.S.

Patent Number 5,977,978, "Interactive Authoring of 3D Scenes and Movies", class 345/419,

11/02/1999, filed 11/13/1996.

As per independent claim 1, **"a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object**

that is displayed, said method comprising the steps of: defining said three-dimensional

object as a component with a component interface . . . containing an intelligent content;

Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 40-43; **displaying said component interface;** Carey et al.

discloses in col. 3, lines 9-12; **and interfacing with said three-dimensional object through**

said component interface." Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 12-14.

With respect to dependent claim 2, **"defining . . . comprises the steps of: defining said**

component in a three-dimensional content language; Carey et al. discloses in col. 5, lines 40-

43; **. . . at least one property to describe said component;** Carey et al. discloses in col. 5, lines

55-60; **and . . . at least one route to interface said component with a second component . . ."**

Carey et al. discloses in col. 6, lines 14-15.

Application/Control Number: 09/187,284 (Lynn et al.)   Page 4

Art Unit: 2772

With respect to dependent claims 3, 13, 16 and 22, "... **three-dimensional content language is a virtual reality modeling language.**" Carey et al. discloses in col. 1, lines 7-14.

With respect to dependent claim 4, "... **at least one property is selected from the group consisting of color, shape, transformation, behavioral, event handling and grouping.**" Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 25-28.

With respect to dependent claim 5, "... **at least one route is selected from the group consisting of event and action as an event model for the component.**" Carey et al. discloses in col. 5, lines 65-67.

With respect to dependent claim 6, " ... **component interface is selected form the group consisting of group, pickable, transformable, colorable and texture.**" Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 15-28.

With respect to dependent claim 7, "... **component interface is selected from the group consisting of a smartproperty list, a smartproperty, a smartwidget, a smartfactory, a property, a propertylist, and extension and an extensionfactory.**" Carey et al. discloses in col. 6, lines 14-35.

With respect to dependent claim 8, "... **displaying step further comprises the step of displaying said component interface on a cathode ray tube display.**" Carey et al. discloses in col. 2, lines 58-62.

With respect to dependent claim 9, "... **interfacing step further comprises the steps of: providing a plurality of component interfaces;** Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 60-61;

Application/Control Number: 09/187,284 (Lynn et al.)   Page 5

Art Unit: 2772

selecting one of said plurality of component interfaces to access said intelligent content;

Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 61-65; and interfacing with said three-dimensional object

. . ." Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 66-67.

As per independent claim 10, "an apparatus for interfacing with a three-dimensional

object . . .", it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1, "a method of

interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . ."

With respect to dependent claims 11-12, see above rejection for dependent claims 2 and 8

respectively.

As per independent claim 14, "a computer system for interfacing with a three-

dimensional object . . .", it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1,

"a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . ."

With respect to dependent claims 15, 17-19, see above rejection for dependent claims 2, 6,

7 and 9 respectively.

As per independent claim 20, "a computer readable medium having a computer

program stored thereon . . .", it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent

claim 1, "a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . ."

With respect to dependent claims 21, 23-25, see above rejection for dependent claims 2, 6,

7 and 9 respectively.

Application/Control Number: 09/187,284 (Lynn et al.)   Page 5

Art Unit: 2772

selecting one of said plurality of component interfaces to access said intelligent content;

Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 61-65; **and interfacing with said three-dimensional object**

. . ." Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 66-67.

As per independent claim 10, **"an apparatus for interfacing with a three-dimensional**

object . . .", it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1, **"a method of**

interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . ."

With respect to dependent claims 11-12, see above rejection for dependent claims 2 and 8

respectively.

As per independent claim 14, **"a computer system for interfacing with a three-**

dimensional object . . .", it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1,

"a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . ."

With respect to dependent claims 15, 17-19, see above rejection for dependent claims 2, 6,

7 and 9 respectively.

As per independent claim 20, **"a computer readable medium having a computer**

program stored thereon . . .", it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent

claim 1, **"a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . ."**

With respect to dependent claims 21, 23-25, see above rejection for dependent claims 2, 6,

7 and 9 respectively.

Application/Control Number: 09/187,284 (Lynn et al.)   Page 6

Art Unit: 2772

Conclusion

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

5,884,029   Brush, II et al.   395/200.32   03/16/99   11/14/96

User interaction with intelligent virtual objects, avatars, which interact with other avatars controlled by different users.

5,889,951   Lombardi   395/200.49   03/30/99   05/13/96

Systems, methods, and computer program products for accessing, leasing, relocating, constructing and modifying internet sites within a multi-dimensional virtual reality environment.

Application/Control Number: 09/187,284 (Lynn et al.)   Page 7

Art Unit: 2772

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703)-308-9051 (**formal** communications intended for entry),

Or:

(703)-305-9724 (**informal** communications labeled **PROPOSED** or **DRAFT**).

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Sixth Floor Receptionist, Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA.

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Motilewa Good-Johnson, whose telephone number is (703)-305-3939 and

can normally be reached Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Mark Powell, can be reached at (703)-305-9703.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900.

Motilewa Good-Johnson
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2772

MARK R. POWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700